GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:312
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2001
MALNUTRITION IN TRIBAL AREAS
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have failed to implement the schemes for tribals in tribal areas to counter malnutrition;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government are aware that more than 9000 tribal children have died due to malnutrition since May,2000 in the five districts of Maharashtra viz. Jalgaon, Dhule, Nashik, Nandurbar and Ahmednagar;

(d) if so, the reasons for apathy of Union Government towards these tribal areas; and

(e) the fresh steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a) No, Sir. Government has been taking all necessary steps to improve the nutritional status of the society, including the tribals and ensuring effective implementation of the schemes to counter malnutrition.

(b) Does not arise.

(c,d & e) According to the report of the state Govt. of Maharashtra there have been 2755 deaths of children in the age group of 0-6 in the districts of Nasik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon & Ahemdnagar during 2000-2001 but not all of them were due to mal-nutrition, the other cases being low birth weight, premature nature of delivery, Dierrohea leading to de- hydration, lack of knowledge of personal and environmental hygiene.

In order to contain the infant mortalitly rates, the state Govt. has beenimplementing the Navsanjeewan Yojana, which is an integrated scheme consisting of provision of health services, employment guarantee, supply of food grains, consumption loan scheme.

The central Govt. is also implementing a grain bank scheme for tribals, which is intended to preveat starvation death among them.